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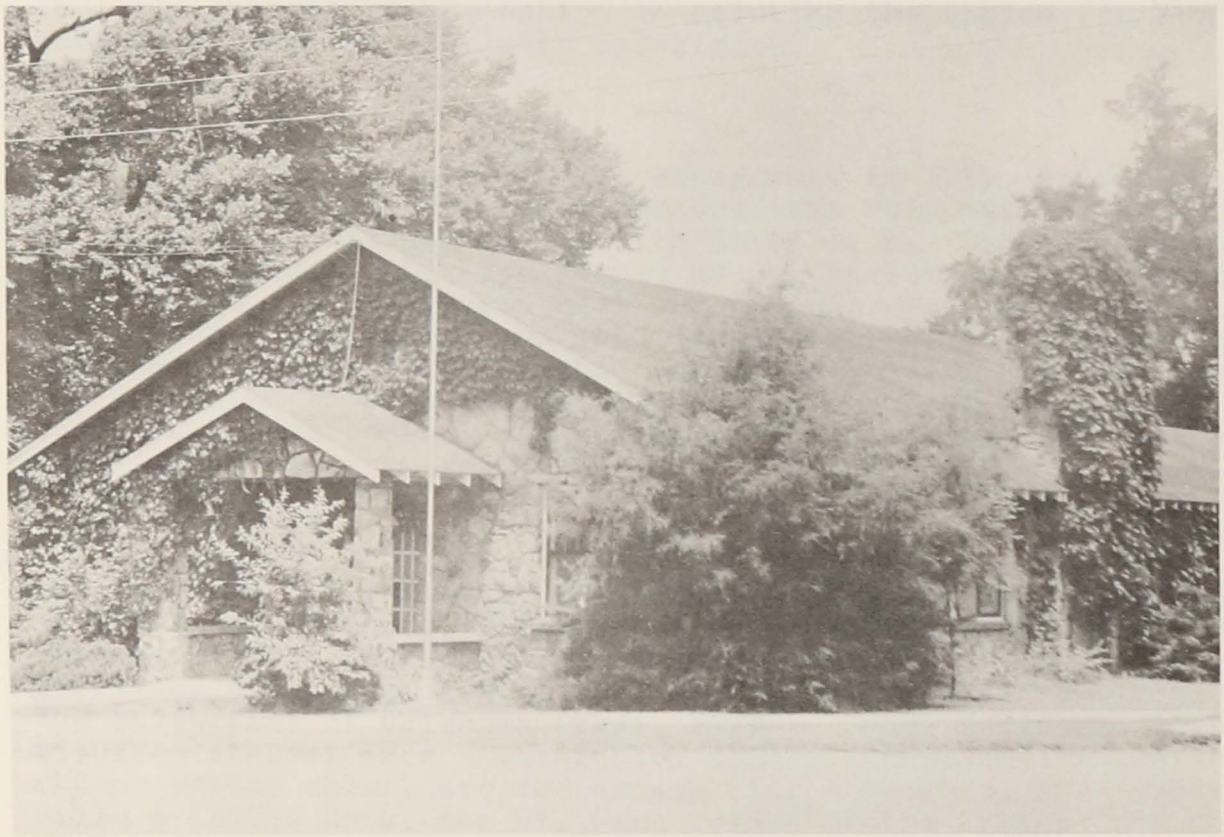
FLASHBACK *published by the*

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

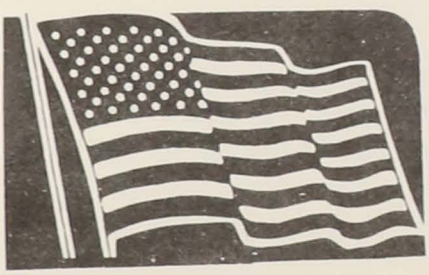
Vol. XIX, No. 3 ERNIE DEANE, EDITOR August 1969



AMERICAN LEGION HUT, SPRINGDALE (See Article Inside)

The Legion in Washington County

50th Anniversary 1969



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EDITOR'S NOTES

We pay tribute in this issue to two American Legion posts in our county, and to the men and women who have kept them alive and functioning for the past half century. In subsequent issues we hope to publish similar articles about other Legion posts in the county.

The Legion throughout its history has performed well and faithfully for our state and country. FLASHBACK joins other periodicals throughout the nation in saluting the Legion for its good works and its patriotic principles.

Your editor enjoyed a rare experience in July, attending a Green Corn Dance of the Creek Indians near Holdenville, Okla. While there he met and talked with Chief W. E. (Dode) McIntosh of the Creek Nation, who is a member of our Society and who had correspondence over the years with our founder, Professor Lemke. Chief McIntosh bears a name that is not only closely associated with Oklahoma history, but the much longer history of the Creeks; and he has an intense personal interest in the history of the Arkansas-Oklahoma region. It was a great pleasure to make his acquaintance.

Members interested in early day railroading in Arkansas, and in Northwest Arkansas, will find a recently published book by an Arkansas author to be both entertaining and informative. It is Shortline Railroads of Arkansas, by Clifton E. Hull, published by the University of Oklahoma Press, $9.95. Among railroads of particular interest from a Washington County standpoint, which the author writes about, are the Kansas City & Memphis, the Fayetteville & Little Rock, the St. Paul branch of the Frisco, and the Combs, Cass & Eastern. Several photos from the collection of Marion Bayles of Fayetteville help to illustrate this excellent book.

There's no thanking everyone who deserves thanks for helping with a publication like FLASHBACK, because so many help. However, the editor is truly grateful to every person who writes articles, loans photographs, and makes helpful suggestions. And this month he is grateful to our member Dan Printup, of Fayetteville, for copying a number of photographs which were loaned for publication.

The furnishing of Headquarters House, and the arrangements made to keep it open for visitors regularly, are matters of considerable gratification. See page 2 of this issue for details.

-- Ernie Deane

MUCH PROGRESS AT HEADQUARTERS HOUSE

Headquarters House more and more is serving its primary purpose of being a historic shrine and museum for public benefit. FLASHBACK can report this good news because so many contributions of importance are being made, including contributions of time and effort which are extremely important in a project of this nature.

Thanks to ladies working with Mrs. William Meldrum, chairman of the Hostess Committee, Headquarters House is being kept open regularly for visitors. The hours are 2 p. m. to 4 p. m., six days every week (closed Mondays.) An encouraging increase in the number of visitors has resulted from the efforts of these ladies. During July, more than 100 visitors signed the register; and they included a group from Japan brought to the house by Cy Sutherland of the University of Arkansas Department of Architecture. The Oriental visitors made numerous photographs, inside and outside the house, for use in their studies of American architecture.

"Word of mouth advertising" is invaluable in getting the news spread that Headquarters House is open regularly for visitors. Society members are asked to do their share of such "advertising."

Visits to the house nowadays should be much more interesting and informative than they were even a few months ago. That's because so many additions have been made to the furnishings. Space limitations prevent FLASHBACK from listing them all, but we would call attention to several in particular.

A most welcome gift of $1,000 cash from the Fayetteville Rotary Club made possible the purchase of several pieces: A mahogany ottoman, circa 1850; a gentleman's chair, a lady's chair, and a slipper chair, c. 1850; a mahogany banqueting table in three sections, c. 1820; and a blanket chest, c. 1858.

James Kay Gregory of Fayetteville filled a real need with the gift of an 1816 "square" piano in honor of his mother, Mary Ballard Gregory (1852-1942), who owned it and played it. Mary Ballard Gregory was a native of Eddyville, Ky., and through her grandmothers was kin to President James Kay Polk and President Andrew Johnson. The tebbetts family had such a piano in the home in the 1850's and early '60's, and so this fine old instrument, made by Geib and Son of New York, is an exceptional addition to Headquarters House furnishings.

On display is an embroidered family portrait, done in 1812 by Fereby Williams, aged 14, containing four figures around a small table. It was left to her youngest daughter, Sammie McKay, and is now owned by her granddaughter, Mrs. T. R. Marshall. It is a rarity.

In the next issue of FLASHBACK we hope to publish a list of every piece of furniture and other items given to Headquarters House by generous individuals who are helping so much to make this an outstanding museum and shrine. Meanwhile, visit the house, and invite friends to do so.

BEELEY-JOHNSON POST 139 AMERICAN LEGION

by Thomas Rothrock

On July 27, 1920, 15 World War I veterans signed an application for a temporary charter for an American Legion Post at Springdale, Arkansas: William G. Ownbey, John L. Stafford, Harold E. Henson, J. Webb Powell, Earl Kennan, James E. Martin, Clarence A. Ballard, Willie T. Pugh, Allen D. Erwin, Percy W. Boone, Samuel Donohoe, Charles H. Hamby, Paul F. Glass, John D. Reid, Howard D. Ewalt. The Beeley-Johnson Post archives list its first officers as: Commander, William C. Ownbey; Adjutant, J. Webb Powell; Treasurer, Earl Kennan; Historian, Edward R. Stafford.

Of this group, Harold E. Henson of Springdale, Paul F. Glass of Fort Worth, Texas, and John D. Reid of Muskogee, Oklahoma, are living. Ten of the group have passed over the Great Divide. Nothing is known of two: Clarence A. Ballard and Willie T. Pugh.

The Post was named for Clarence E. Beeley, a Springdale soldier who served with the Second Division, and who fell on an October day in 1918.

Harold Henson was the 1922 Commander; Sam Moore for 1923; Sam Watkins for 1924; Harold Henson for 1925; Harold Henson for 1926. By now the program of service for which the Post has been noted was beginning to take shape. Every month some useful civic work was done. An example was the building of a hitchrack for the convenience of those who were still using wagon or buggy.

Jack Van Ausdell was Commander for 1927, and again for 1928. The Post membership reached 65. An emergency squad was created, to be immediately called forth in times of need. A plot just across the street from the City Park was leased for a place upon which to erect a Hut. In July, 1928, Colonel William G. Ownbey, the Post's first Commander, died.

John Downum was the Commander for 1929; U. A. Lovell for 1930; P. W. Boone for 1931; John Downum for 1932; B. W. "Bab" Brooks for 1933. Due to the Great Depression, the Springdale schools were in financial difficulties and were forced to charge tuition. The Post paid the tuition of 16 young students who were unable to pay their own. This year plans began to jell for the building of the Post Hut.

"Bab" Brooks was again Commander for 1934 and the membership was 76. The Post, with the aid of the Federal Government, built an attractive hut of native stone on a lot just across the street from the west side of the City Park. A delegation comprised of John Downum, Wilbur Atkinson, John Main, Harold Henson and his wife, Dollie, drove to Little Rock in a Model T Ford and contacted the Federal-State coordinator of works projects in regard to building the Hut. The project was turned down because of a lack of sufficient membership. The delegation paid the dues of 14 Springdale veterans from their own pockets and the project was accepted. In addition to Federal aid, much donated time, materials, and money went into the construction of the Hut.

Wilbur Atkinson was Commander for 1935; Memo Morsani for 1936; U. A. Lovell for 1937. The latter year the membership reached a record 118.

Dudley Hunt was Commander for 1938; H. D. Dierich for 1939. The latter year the Post's own "Bab" Brooks was elected state commander of the Legion and the Post reached a total of 177 members. D. A. Hairston was Commander for 1940. At the Post's annual Christmas party there were 225 under-privileged children in attendance. Christmas cheer was taken to 23 needy families, too.

Dr. L. A. Smith was Commander for 1941. The Post sponsored the annual drive for food for the Arkansas Crippled Childrens Home. Every Post and Auxiliary member came to the aid of a buddy who lost all worldly possessions by fire.

B. B. Brogdon was Commander for 1942. The Post collected 825 pounds of precious scrap aluminum. It also purchased Defense Bonds. Its own Harold E. Henson re-entered the Army as a major. Noah M. Woolsey was Commander for 1943. The Post collected 1,500 phonograph records for our Armed Forces, cooperated in War Bond sales campaigns; collected scrap metals. H. C. Dierich was elected District Commander.

J. W. B. Work was Commander for 1944. H. C. Dierich was presented the Silver Beaver, one of Scouting's highest awards, for his work as Scoutmaster. The Post put its weight behind the GI Bill of Rights for World War II veterans.

H. C. Dierich was Commander for 1945. Two members suffered family losses in World War II. The Post and its friends donated 200 bushels of food to the Arkansas Crippled Childrens Home. Springdale's first Rodeo of the Ozarks was sponsored by the Post, assisted by the Chamber of Commerce and owners of Farmers Livestock barn. Membership in 1945 was 150.

Kirby Beller was Commander for 1945. The Legion's Silver Cup was presented to Service Officer U. A. Lovell for meritorious service. All possible help was rendered to World War II veterans and families in regard to housing and employment. Membership this year was 325. Young blood added to the old!

Espen Walters was Commander for 1947. The Post contributed $1,300 to the Springdale Benevolent Association, co-sponsor of the Rodeo. Wayne Allen was Commander in 1948. A committee, with Ray Wilmoth as chairman, completely remodeled the Springdale High School athletic field.

Wayne Allen was Commander for 1949. Younger members made a record for blood donations. Bob Fisher was Commander for 1950. It was voted to let the city school system use the Hut free for the coming year to help with the overflow of school children. The membership was 389.

Vol Lester was Commander for 1951. Wayne Allen was elected District Commander. Bill Gutensohn was the 1952 Commander. U. A. Lovell was elected First Vice-Commander of the Arkansas Department, American Legion. A room was furnished in the Springdale

Memorial Hospital at a cost of $600. Ray (Burley) Wilmoth was Commander for 1953. U. A. Lovell was appointed to the National Committee of Graves Registration and Memorials.

Gus Sanders was Commander for 1954. Joint meetings held by Legion Posts and Chambers of Commerce saved the Veterans Hospital at Fayetteville, Arkansas, from the so-called "economy axe." The Post not only cooperated with the Goodfellows to bring cheer to needy families at Christmastide but fed one such family all winter. And $2,000 was voted towards the building of a Springdale Recreation Park.

November 11, 1954, was the last national Armistice Day. It gave way to Veterans Day.

Scheley Camp was the 1955 Commander. The Post pledged $1,000 towards an Armory, if and when built; and a fund was created for veterans who went to the hospital without funds. Congressman Jim Trimble aided the Post in getting a Spanish-American veteran and a World War II WAC admitted to the Veterans Hospital at Fayetteville.

U. A. Lovell was the 1956 Commander, and he was appointed to the National Legion Committee on Constitution and By-laws. The Post paid its $1,000 pledge to the new Springdale Armory. As always, veterans' graves in the Springdale area were decorated with American flags at Memorial Day.

U. A. Lovell was Commander for 1957; and he was elected State Commander of the American Legion. And the Post's Joe L. Bunch was elected head of the State 40 and 8--the first time in state Legion history that both Commanders came from one Post.

Heinie Dierich was the Commander for 1958. Loyd Cate was the 1959 Commander. A Boy Scout troop was sponsored on Springdale's east side with Frankie Smith as scoutmaster. Various civic clubs sponsored boys and girls for Boys and Girls State, which placed the number participating far above the Post's quota. As a consequence, the Post received a warning from Legion authorities about doing such again. Through the efforts of Post athletic director, A. E. Hardcastle, a ball park was secured on the west side of the airport grounds. The Post reserved a box of seats at the Rodeo of the Ozarks for patients from the Veterans Hospital at Fayetteville.

Joe McKim was the Commander for 1960. In March, the Legion's 41st birthday was celebrated with Judge Ben Geren of Fort Smith, as the speaker, the judge having been a member of the original Legion Paris caucus of March, 1919. A Boy Scout troop was sponsored on Springdale's east side, and the ball park near the airport for Junior League and Babe Ruth baseball teams was promoted.

Ed Buck was Commander for 1961. The Post built a home for a World War II widow with ten children, cost $3,041.94, with material at cost and considerable donated work. This year, the east side Boy Scout troop had a young scoutmaster, Walter Watkins, an Eagle Scout himself.

Derry Hairston was the 1962 Commander. There being much money on various matters spent, a budget committee was appointed to insure sufficient money to help unfortunates at Christmastide. For instance, $1,134.25 was spent on Junior League baseball and Boy Scouts.

Wayne High was Commander for 1963. One of the Post's past Commanders, Ed Buck, was elected District Commander. The name of a World War II Springdale soldier, Elmer Johnson, Jr., who died of wounds in Brittany in France, September 12, 1944, was added to the Post's name. From now, it is the Beeley-Johnson Post.

Roy Barbee was Commander for 1964. The Post, by now, is sustaining several membership losses each year--mostly veterans of World War I. Jerry Reeves, a Korean War veteran, replaced Eva Atwood as Adjutant. Eva, a World War I Army nurse, had been Post Adjutant for many years.

U. A. Lovell was the 1965 Commander. The Post's Junior League baseball team played in the District finals. A Post member, Leo Franklin Hodge, died; he was said to be the youngest American soldier to fight overseas in World War I at the age of 14 years. In World War II, he served in the Navy.

Joe Allen Roberts was Commander for the year 1966. The Post's U. A. Lovell was elected National Executive Committeeman at the State convention at Hot Springs. Eva Atwood, for many years the Post's adjutant and a World War I Army nurse, was named to the Hall of Fame by the Arkansas Nurses Association.

Joe Allen Roberts was again Commander for 1967. The Post accepted for membership its first Viet Nam veteran, Marvin Walker. The first life memberships for outstanding Legion service were awarded to U. A. Lovell, Eva Atwood, Charles Elmer, D. A. Hairston.

Bill Stamper was Commander for 1968. As one of 18 youths in the nation receiving Freedoms Foundation Awards, Miss Linda Mayes was presented a $100 prize and certificates for her public address in the American Legion oratorical contest. Linda is a Springdale High School graduate, Class '67. Harold Henson, Joseph Hainback, John Downum, John Main were presented life memberships for long service to the Legion.

Marvin Walker was the Commander for 1969. On the evening of March 18, 1969, the Beeley-Johnson Post commemorated the Legion's 50th birthday; at which time Bill Gutensohn, Heinie Dierich and Tom Rothrock received life memberships for service to the Legion. Twenty-two top students were announced for Boys and Girls State. This summer, in addition to coverage by area newspapers, many Legion Junior League baseball games will be heard over radio station KNWA. Marvin Walker was re-elected as Commander for the 1969-1970 Legion year.

Death is cutting into the Legion's ranks. Particularly is this true in regard to members from the First World War.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION IN FAYETTEVILLE

Lynn Shelton in World War I and William Marion Tucker in World War II were the first men from Washington County to give their lives. Lynn Shelton died in France May 28, 1918, while trying to carry the body of his wounded buddy from the battlefield back to safety. He was in a medical detachment of the Army. William Marion Tucker, a Marine, died December 8, 1941, in the defense of Wake Island.

Washington County Legionnaires honor these men by calling Post No. 27 in Fayetteville the Shelton-Tucker Post.

The Post this year, 1969, has reached the half-century mark and is still a thriving organization. This year will be sparked by celebrations of the 50th anniversary across the country:

--the kickoff was at the 50th National Convention in New Orleans in September of 1968.

--then followed in Washington, D. C., in March of 1969, a celebration of the anniversary of the actual founding of the organization in March 1919 by a group of 20 American Expeditionary Force officers in Paris, France. Young Theodore Roosevelt was prominent in this group.

--on May 6-9, 1969, in St. Louis, Missouri, the group commemorated its famous St. Louis caucus of fifty years ago on the same dates.

--in Atlanta, Georgia, in August, the Legion plans its 51st National Convention with a record turnout expected.

--when in November in Minneapolis, Minnesota, the Legion focuses on the November 11, 1918, signing of the World War I armistice, then and only then will the official 15-month celebration be over.

The Fayetteville Post, only four months younger than the national organization, celebrated with a birthday dinner at the Legion Hut on March 20, 1969. Participation numbered over 200 veterans and their families.

On March 18, 1969, the Northwest Arkansas Times devoted a full page to a history of American Legion, ads of congratulation on the Legion's Golden anniversary, and an invitation from the Legion to join "if you served during these dates:

April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918
December 7, 1941 to September 2, 1945
June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953
August 5, 1964 to date."

Membership, which dipped to a low of 24 in Fayetteville in 1928-29, soared to an all-time high of 635 in 1967-68, and surpassed even that with a total of 667 at the end of June, 1969.

The Legionnaires organization of wives, the American Legion Auxiliary, contributes to the accomplishment of all the Legion's aims. The Auxiliary's active program of Poppy Days and decoration of graves in the National Cemetery on Memorial Day was also treated in the March 18th Northwest Arkansas Times. The Fayetteville Auxiliary took eighth place in the nation with their Child Welfare Program last year.

The Fayetteville Post participates in an amazing number of philanthropic projects. Scholarships and awards are given to high school students and university cadets in the Reserve Officer Training Corps. The Legion sponsors a yearly oratorical contest based on our U. S. Constitution. The Americanism campaign concentrates on patriotism and makes flags available to schools. Twice a year there is a Poppy Sale (the paper flowers made by hospitalized disabled veterans), a joint endeavor of the Legion and its Auxiliary. Boys State and Girls State give the young people a close view of our political system. The Child Welfare program assists minor children of veterans. Christmas baskets are delivered. A full-time paid Service Officer assists veterans and families with claims for compensations and pensions.

On top of all this, the Legionnaires help hospitalized veterans. And when you stop to think that our country now has 26,000,000 veterans, the tremendous need for the American Legion is apparent.

In July, 1919, Scott Hamilton and other ex-servicemen in Fayetteville circulated a handbill headed "Tenshun!" calling upon World War I veterans to meet at the courthouse to organize a post of American Legion. On July 31, 1919, the Lynn Shelton Post No. 27 in Fayetteville was chartered, with the first members being: Dr. Otey Miller, Sidney W. Benton, Frank P. Hall Jr., C. B. Boles, Roy A. Adams, Prestley R. Wiggin, Scott D. Hamilton, Berty Ray Fleming, John M. Whittenberg, Norris R. Skaggs, Dave Markle, Edgar A. Wright, Robert D. Harris, Walter L. Pool, and Norman A. McCartney. The framed charter (a temporary one, the permanent one being issued October 1, 1920) is hanging on a wall in the basement of the Legion hut. On the opposite wall marches a double line of photographic portraits of almost all the commanders this post has had.

When back in 1919, the Post met to elect officers, other veterans had joined the original fifteen and those elected were: Sam Thorpe, Commander; E. M. Ratliff, Adjutant; J. H. McMurray, Finance Officer.

Prior to the organization of this post, another American Legion Post in Fayetteville, composed of veterans in the student body and on the faculty of the University of Arkansas, was called the Ray Fish Post No. 105. Its membership of 140, one of the largest in the state, was subsequently transferred to the newly organized Lynn Shelton Post No. 27.

Post No. 27 has sponsored two other posts in the county over its fifty year span: Fayetteville No. 418 and West Fork No. 295.

The 54 Washington County boys who died in World War I are honored by a mural on the walls of the County Court House. This painting was done by William Steere and fostered by the DAR and the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce. It was dedicated July 4, 1920.

Now another permanent record is anticipated: a Veterans' Memorial with the names of all county men killed in action inscribed on the monument will be placed in the baseball park the Legion is currently creating on a 10-acre site off Highway 16 East by-pass. Edmond Tood heads the Baseball Committee planning the park. Other members are Frank Curtis, Shirley Parnall and L. C. Mains. The famous baseball player, Sherman Lollar, is a former member of the Fayetteville Post.

Participation in community affairs early became the pattern of activities for Post No. 27. By 1921, donations to a Public School Music Fund are recorded; booths were operated on the Square to raise funds for the Parent-Teachers Association; a committee worked actively to secure street marking; regular commemorations marked Armistice and Memorial Days; welfare funds for the community were bolstered by wrestling and boxing bouts, carnivals, special moving pictures, home talent plays, minstrels, and dances.

The Post sponsored a Boy Scout troop. The National Guard used the Legion building for drill purposes until the Armory was completed. The American Legion State Convention was held in Fayetteville in August, 1924. It brought a huge number of persons to the city, but the Post struggled for over a decade to recover from a financial loss from an advertising venture connected with the printing of the convention program.

The Post urged the location of a Veterans Hospital at Fayetteville in 1931, and lent its strength to that of the Chamber of Commerce and other organizations to secure the site and the construction of the hospital.

Early in 1940, a Youth Camp was set up for underprivileged children. Jerry LeMarr, a past State Commander, was in charge of the facility at Devil's Den State Park.

In 1941, the dream of a building of its own materialized for Post No. 27 when, with about $750 cash, members set out to build the present Legion Hut. Members donated their efforts and when the building was dedicated February 20, 1941, a total of 3,500 hours of labor had been given. The building committee was made up of Fred Givens, D. A. Burson, L. A. Passarelli, Tom Eads, Frank Kelley and Lee Rogers. In two years the mortgage was paid off and a mortgage burning ceremony was part of the Legion's 25th anniversary celebration.

Many women in Fayetteville still remember the anxious World War II days when the Legion Hut was pressed into service as a USO and weekly dances sometimes introduced the seventeen-year-old ASTP boys at the University to the local high school girls under the strict supervision of the girls' mothers.

The following roster of the 54 Commanders of the Shelton-Tucker Post No. 27 contains the names of some of Fayetteville's most dynamic citizens of the past fifty years:

1919-20	Sam Thorpe
1920-21	Grover George
1921-22	Rev. Lloyd Ellis
1922-23	Marc Stice
1923-24	E. M. Ratliff
1924-25	Don Parmalee and E. K. Hooper
1925-26	Roy Adams
1926-27	Jerome Thompson
1927-28	B. O. Kelly and C. T. Smith and W. W. Higgins
1928-29	Carl A. Smith
1929-30	Dr. J. A. Williams
1930-31	Proctor Johnson
1931-32	Sam Watkins
1932-33	Tom Eads
1933-34	Harvey Phillips
1934-35	W. C. Crosswell
1935-36	E. A. Welch
1936-37	L. A. Passarelli
1937-38	Marion Wasson
1938-39	Robert E. White and Ernest Atha
1939-40	Fred Thompsen
1940-41	D. A. Burson
1941-42	O. W. Stapleton
1942-43	G. M. "Jerry" LeMarr
1943-44	Henry Cochran
1944-45	Marion Harrison
1945-46	George McKinney
1946-47	Dr. Allan A. Gilbert
1947-48	Frank A. Curtis
1948-49	Col. R. M. O'Day
1949-50	E. L. Phillips
1950-51	Joel Bunch
1951-52	W. S. Bronson
1952-53	Joe Anderson
1953-54	J. King Wheeler
1954-55	Edmond Todd
1955-56	John W. Murphy
1956-57	Eugene Snow
1957-58	C. E. Follett
1958-59	A. J. Marti
1959-60	Sam Matthews
1960-61	Lloyd Winscott
1961-62	Bill Threlkeld
1962-63	Bob Maddox
1963-64	E. E. VonErdmannsdorff
1964-65	Charles Brewer
1965-66	Henry Kneitz
1966-67	Robert Earls
1967-68	John Weir
1968-69	Rev. John Thrasher
1969-70	Howard Hagaman

FAYETTEVILLE'S CITY HOSPITAL

by Thomas Rothrock

Part I - The Hospital (continued)

(Editor's Note: The first installment of this history told of the 46 years of Ruth Riley's administration and ended with her resignation in 1958.)

"Before the advent of the sulfa drugs," related Ruth Riley during a reminiscence shortly before her retirement, "nursing care consisted of caring for desperately ill patients. Pneumonia, typhoid fever, peritonitis and colitis, which was especially severe in small children and elderly patients. These patients had to be supplied by liquids and foods and had to have good nursing. Eventually they would recover by building up an immunity within their own bodies. This is an era of wonder drugs which are expensive but save many lives and have increased life expectancy. Also, people are beginning to understand and use frequent checkups, using x-ray and laboratory. Hospital stays have been shortened so, comparatively speaking, the price has not risen more than other things have.

"In the past, hospitalization insurance was unheard of, and financing was a hit-and-miss proposition. We had wars, droughts, depressions, but I believe people received the care they needed. I have been asked how we did it and I must say I do not know the answer.

"Certainly, I would know better than to try it again."

"Ruth Riley Day" was on January 25, 1959, and so declared by Mayor Austin Parrish. A reception was held in the afternoon at the home of Miss Riley. A further honor was her election to the Arkansas State Nurses Association Hall of Fame.

At the time of Miss Riley's retirement, Pearl Walker was put in charge of day supervision, Mrs. Harry Jackson as evening supervisor, Mrs. Jarvis as night supervisor, Mrs. McChristian as supervisor of the operating room, Joy Thomas as laboratory technician, Sue Guinn as x-ray technician, Miss Roe Smith as medical records librarian.

On November 1, 1958, the Board of Control employed Mrs. Wilma Cooper as an administrator. Two years previous to her coming to Fayetteville she was an administrator for the Erie Hospital, Erie, Pennsylvania. She held a degree in business administration from the Unibersity of Iowa and a master's degree in hospital administration from Northwestern University. Her residency was taken at the Women's and Children's Hospital in Chicago.

At the time she took over the administration, the Board of Control was A. L. Holland, chairman; E. A. Cowan, secretary; Garvin Shipley, Norman McCartney, Luther Freeman, Paul Lewis, Mrs. Henry Meenen, Herbert Lewis, Jack Burge, Jack Reed.

These excellent photos of Hospital personnel are published courtesy of Dora Deen. In the upper left is Dr. J. W. Walker in 1919. The nurses in the upper center picture, left to right, are Miss Ruth Riley, Miss Lulu Strom, Miss Theresa Borick, and Miss Dora Deen; photo made in 1920. In the upper right photo is Dr. Will Mock in 1919. The photograph at the left shows Miss Freeman with Dr. A. S. Gregg in 1919. (Additional photos are needed for the third and final installment of the history of the Hospital. Any Society member who has such photos will do Flashback a great favor by loaning them to us long enough for copying to be done.)

In February, 1960, the Board regretfully accepted the resignation of E. A. Cowan. In May, Jack Burge resigned and Roy Scott became a member. There must have been considerable renovation taking place at this period because in March the Board voted to pay a painting bill amounting to $6,604.06. In December, Mrs. Anna Johnson was announced as "Director of Nursing." In January, 1961, Paul D. Lewis resigned as Board representative from St. Paul's Episcopal church, his place being taken by Roy T. Edwards.

At a meeting of the Board of Control on March 24, 1961, the Rev. Hughes of the Wiggans Methodist Church was present and asked the Board if they would consider managing a nursing home. Following a rather lengthy discussion, Grover Thomas, representative from the City Council, agreed to discuss the possibility with the City Council. This discussion must have been one of the earliest pertaining to a nursing home.

The City Hospital Board met on December 15, 1961. Roy Scott reported on the status of the title to the property on which the Hospital and auxiliary buildings are located, stating a will had been found leaving the property to the City of Fayetteville. The Chairman, Mr. Holland thereupon "announced that he would appoint a committee to work with the City Council to develop building plans and method of financing a convalescence home." In February, 1962, Holland appointed a committee of Herbert Lewis, Roy Scott, Administrator Cooper. At that time Scott reported that Eugene C. Spratt, Director, Division of Hospitals and Nursing Homes of the Arkansas Department of Health, "had indicated that the investment in a Nursing Home would cost about $7,000.00 per bed and a 40-bed unit would involve about $300,000.00. Mr. Scott was instructed to find out the millage necessary to float a bond issue." At a meeting in June T. Ewing Shelton, architect, showed plans he had made for the proposed nursing home.

In July, Dr. Patrick "stated that the doctors would support the home to the fullest, and would publicly endorse the plan if it were deemed advisable to do so." And the Control Board went on record as being in favor of a 40-bed nursing home, the structure to be financed with money raised through a $100,000.00 bond issue to be placed on the November 6th ballot, and a $200,000.00 Hill-Burton grant.

On Sunday, September 9, 1962, open house was held at the City Hospital to commemorate a half-century of that institution's service to humanity, during which something like 10,000 babies had been born there.

Mrs. Wilma Cooper having resigned effective November 30, 1962 the Control Board employed Kenneth Sanders to succeed Mrs. Cooper as an administrator, effective December 1, 1962. Mrs. Cooper was presented with a Board resolution expressing appreciation for the work accomplished during her administration. She stated that she planned to retire and to reside in Dayton, Ohio, where a daughter and grandchildren lived.

Kenneth Sanders came to Fayetteville from Walnut Ridge, Arkansas, where he was the administrator of Lawrence Memorial Hospital, which already had an attached nursing home. He belonged to the Walnut Ridge Chamber of Commerce, was secretary-general of the Kiwanis Club, and a deacon of Walnut Ridge's First Baptist Church.

A native of Lynn, Arkansas, Sanders attended the University of Kansas and the Lawton School for Medical Assistants in Los Angeles. He served in the Medical Corps of the Strategic Air Command of the Air Force, 1952-1955, and since then had been in the hospital administration field. He was married and the father of a son and a daughter.

Chairman Alsey Holland of the City Hospital's Control Board stated, "We feel fortunate in obtaining as an administrator, Mr. Sanders, whose qualifications fit our needs so well." In April, 1968, Sanders was elected president of the Board of Directors of the Washington County Arthritis Chapter, succeeding Dr. C. Rodney Baker.

At a Board meeting on January 16, 1963, it was recommended that the entire Board personnel plus two doctors from the Medical Staff serve as a committee for the building of the nursing home. Administrator Sanders was authorized to negotiate the purchase of property adjacent to the northeast corner of the Hospital Grounds. Mrs. Adrian Sanger was welcomed as "Director of Nurses."

On January 17, 1964, Administrator Sanders reported that all plans for the new Geriatric Center were approved for Hill-Burton support; and that bids would be opened on February 19, 1964, at 2:00 p. m. On this date the bid by the Shirley Construction Company was accepted. In April "The Board recommended that work begin on filling in the gully north of the hospital and appointed Mr. Roberts to assist the Administration in negotiating with Mr. Shirley for the hauling of dirt from the construction site to the gully." Also, "The Board authorized Mr. Sanders to obtain site approval of hospital property for the construction of a new wing going north from the existing building, to formulate floor plans for this wing and to make application to Hill-Burton for matching funds."

It was voted on May 15, 1964, that membership on the Hospital Medical Staff would not be denied because of race, that the only test would be qualifications as set forth in the by-laws of the Hospital.

The McKeehan Fabric Center having terminated the rent on the Welch Building on East Center Street owned by the Hospital, it was suggested that the Womens Auxiliary use the building rent-free, for its outlet store known as "The Attic." Its location at that time was above the OTASCO store on the west side of the Square, a location which had to be vacated. Also, it was announced that the Medical Staff had begun a fund-raising campaign to furnish patient rooms in the Geriatric Center. This was in September. The following month the official name of the expanding institution was voted in: "Fayetteville City Hospital and Geriatric Center."

Sunday, February 27, 1965, open house was held for the new 40-bed, south wing, Geriatric Center. The one-story, brick, fire-resistant building and its furnishings cost $372,000.00. There is an attractive nurses' station, a cheerful solarium, sheltered patios. Pastel shades were used on the walls and Italian Provincial furniture in patients' rooms of which there are private and semi-private. All patients able to leave their rooms eat in a central dining room. There is a physical therapy department, wide halls and doorways for the use of wheelchairs, ramps in place of stairs. A 93-year-old Fayetteville lady who applied for admission was told "You have to be not sick enough for hospital care, but sick enough to need nursing care." "I knew it!" cried the old lady, popping a fist into a hand, "I knew I would be too healthy to get in."

In June, 1965, the bid of the Shirley Construction Company on the proposed north wing annex was accepted. Death had removed Mr. Norman McCartney from the Control Board and his place was taken by Lonnie Hall, also representing the First Presbyterian Church.

March 18, 1960: "Mr. Sanders reported that it was generally agreed by a majority of the medical staff that they have a representative on the board. It is the feeling of the board that they could work compatibly with anyone appointed who has the sincere interest of the hospital. According to the by-laws, doctors are not in any way prohibited from serving, and since the present vacancy is from the Central Methodist Church, they have full freedom to appoint anyone of their choice."

Sunday, June 12, 1966, between 700 and 800 people attended an open house for the City Hospital's new medical north wing, designed by architect T. Ewing Shelton to conform in appearance to the south wing which had been opened the previous year. The unit was built at an approximate cost of $327,000.00, and featured a modern x-ray department, a solarium, and a waiting room. With 60 beds in the original structure, the Hospital now had 125 beds for patients.

On July 15, 1966, Chairman Holland welcomed Dr. Ruth Ellis Lesh to the Control Board as a representative of the Central Methodist Church. And, "The remodeling has begun on the second floor and seems progressing nicely."

At a regular meeting of the Control Board held on September 23, 1966, Administrator Sanders reported that the changes resulting from Medicare were being worked out and that the program was operating fairly smoothly. It was voted to proceed with the construction of a "therapeutic pool", provided that matching funds could be secured by the local Arthritis Foundation and approval for federal funds obtained. Drs. P. L. Hathcock, W. A. Fowler and Fred Ogden were transferred from active staff to honorary staff membership, and a letter of appreciation sent, thanking these physicians for their many years of service. A letter of appreciation was sent also to the Womens Auxiliary for their constant and valuable support. Jack Flora was introduced as a new member of the Control Board, representing the City of Fayetteville.

In April, 1967, a courageous decision was made to convert the Fayetteville City Hospital into an "extended care hospital" or a "nursing home," for the better medical good for the people of this geographic area. However, surgical facilities were to be reinstated during the summer of 1968.

July 28, 1967: "The Board adopted a resolution that the Fayetteville City Hospital and Geriatric Center will be operated in accordance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964. ...This includes waiting rooms, public toilets dining facilities, room accommodations, and all employee facilities."

At a Board meeting on November 24, 1967, Administrator Sanders "reported that the fund-raising project for the hydrotherapy pool is to be a joint effort between the Jaycees and the Auxiliary." In February, 1968, a new physical therapy department was reported as completed.

The present Control Board of the Fayetteville City Hospital and Geriatric Center has ten members, the original number having been reduced by one through the uniting of the two Presbyterian churches. They are: A. L. Holland as chairman, Herbert Lewis, Senior, as vice chairman, Mrs. Henry Meenen as secretary, Judge J. Ptak, Dr. Ruth Lesh, Jack Roberts, Roy Edwards, Ed Froning, Lonnie Hall, Jack Flora. The present Medical Staff has 47 members as contrasted to the original staff of nine. Chief-of-staff is Dr. Joe Hall, with Dr. Ronald Graham as vice president, and Dr. Monroe Painter as secretary.

The Hospital is licensed by the Arkansas State Board of Health and it is a member of both the Arkansas Hospital Association and the American Hospital Association. It is accredited by a joint commission from the American College of Surgeons, the American College of Physicians, the American Hospital Association, and the American Medical Association.

Just inside the Hospital's main entrance are four memorial plaques: to Mr. and Mrs. S. K. Stone for donating the original grounds for the Hospital; to Mrs. Julia Baum for her efforts to secure x-ray equipment; to James Hoover for his friendship and faithful service; to Miss Ruth Riley for many years of beautiful service.

Part 2 - The Nurses Training Schools

The chronicler has considered it best to separate records of the Nurses Training Schools and the Womens Auxiliaries from those of the Hospital proper, rather than attempt to weave the three together. These organizations, therefore, will be given separate parts, with the Nurses Training Schools coming first.

Nurses were needed for the Hospital's staff and a training school was apparently organized almost with the Hospital's opening; the first pupil (according to an old record) being enrolled on July 6, 1912. Six months later there were four young women in training. Through a period of two decades the school graduated approximately 100 nurses with R. N. degrees.

From the first the school was graded and classes and lectures held regularly. It was accredited by the Arkansas State Board of Nurse examiners, and its graduates were eligible for enrollment in the American Red Cross and the Army and Navy Nurse Corps. On the teaching staff were Drs. W. B. Welch, A. S. Gregg, C. B. Paddock, E. F. Ellis, Otey Miller, W. N. Yates, H. D. Wood.

Miss Charlotte Rehbein of St. Louis, Missouri, and Miss Inez Roy of Fayetteville, Arkansas, comprised the first class graduating in July, 1914. Miss Prudence Riley, Miss Ruth Riley's younger sister, graduated in 1920 and almost at once took another important step by marrying John Samuel Knox who at different times during his career was connected with the University of Arkansas. Mrs. Knox served on the nursing school faculty for many years and later taught nurses' aides.

The nurses lived in the Hospital for the first year; after that the Hospital became so crowded that accommodations had to be made elsewhere. They lived in cottages near the Hospital until 1915, when a nurses' residence was erected on the Hospital grounds. This became so overcrowded that the alumna association attempted to raise money to build an annex and succeeded in raising $2,000. By 1929, the annex was completed, due largely to the efforts of J. N. Williams, chairman of the building committee, and the Rev. H. L. Paisley, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, who headed the drive for funds.

Nurses were encouraged to take post-graduate courses. The first to do so was Miss Inez Ray who served six months at Bellevue Hospital, New York. By 1918, diplomas were not issued to the nurses until they had completed such a course, the nurse making her own selection of school and specialty and paying her own expenses. This soon led to an affiliate for pediatric and obstetric nursing and work in the diet school. Michael Reese Hospital, in Chicago, was the school selected for the affiliation.

The school's first (and only) annual was published by the class of 1930, and named the "Servio." There were six graduates in that class of 1930 who were Gladys Malcolm, president; Juanita Hackney, Nancy Jane Smith, Lowee LaJuan Fellows, Helen Bashe, Myrtle Irene Sherman.

Servio also lists three classes of undergraduates in chronological order. Class of 1931: Cora Sloan, Ora Bell Crow, Jessie Rich, Lillian Littrell, Edna Millsap, Althea Callerman. Class of 1932: Alpha Easterling, Haldane Fellows, Hettie Mae DeMombra, Nora Cain, Juanita Neal, Hazel Daniels, Hollis McCorkill, Marcia Collier, Laura Knadles, Maxine McGaugh, Cecilia Clark. Class of 1933: Milada Ptak, Trelia Adkinson, Dorothy Hawkins.

Active alumnae are also listed in Servio: Lula Sloan, Bernice Francis, Dora Deen, Gladys Patterson, Betsy Campbell, Doris Bunce, Edna Ruppel, Jewell Pond, Lena Glass, Myrtle Barnes, Lula Strom, Prudence Knox, Louise Burtle, Lake Clark.

The 1930 publication likewise lists these physicians as being on the City Hospital staff: Drs. A. S. Gregg, J. M. Wallace,

Charles S. Paddock, F. R. Morrow, E. F. Ellis, H. W. Mock, H. D. Wood, P. L. Hathcock, H. T. Harr, A. I. Moore, Allen H. Gilbert, A. F. DeGroat.

The largest class to graduate from the City Hospital's Nurses Training School, the class of 1928, is given in another source as follows: Hazel Verhoeff, Anna Barnes, Barbara Zuerker, Elizabeth Zuerker, Ethel Haney, Hope Cain, Ruby Alice Pettitt, Alice Myler, Bessie Sorden, Ruth Eldred.

The City Hospital's Nurses Training School was discontinued in 1933 or 1934, as it did not have a daily patient quota sufficient to meet the accreditation requirements placed on such schools at the time.

There was a second nurses training school connected with the City Hospital to some extent, this one for practical nurses. It was established in May, 1958 while Miss Ruth Riley was yet with the Hospital staff. The founding organization was the Fayetteville Public School system through the Arkansas Education Department, with funds originally coming from the latter. A building for the use of the school was furnished by the City Hospital which also used students from the school in its organization.

Mrs. Maguet Patterson was the first teacher and she also started the school. She was joined that first autumn by Mrs. Ella Corwin, the wife of a physician who was with the Veterans Administration for a number of years. Mrs. Corwin stayed with the program for a period of eight years. During 1960, Mrs. Patterson left Arkansas and Mrs. Betty Battenfield took charge of the school and is its present administrator.

The building furnished by the City Hospital was on a basis of rent and utilities free until 1964 when a nominal rent was charged. Because of the Hospital's abandonment of obstetrics and surgery, and a consequent restriction in the training of the nurses, the school was moved in 1966 to its present location at the Sequoyah Polytechnic School, just west of Fayetteville and close to Highway 62. The nursing school encompasses three counties (Washington, Benton, Madison), with six hospitals in the tri-county area. The present faculty has three members; there are at present three classes a year with usually a dozen graduates and a total graduation of approximately 230 practical nurses. There is an advisory committee comprised of members from various medical and business organizations.

Part 3 - The Womens Auxiliaries

The book of records from which the following excerpts are taken was preserved by the late Mrs. E. F. Ellis, wife of the late Dr. E. F. Ellis.

"A mass meeting of the ladies of Fayetteville, held at the Court House on Monday afternoon, March twenty-ninth (1909), was called to order at 2:30 by Mrs. Welch. The meeting was opened by all joining in the Lord's Prayer, after which Mrs. Welch led in a short prayer. Mrs. Chase was elected temporary chairman and Mrs.

Brough secretary. Mrs. Chase and Mrs. Welch explained that the object of the meeting was to form an organization, the purpose of which would be to aid the City Hospital Board in every way possible. Mrs. Davies made a motion, which was unanimously carried, that all present sign their names as charter members of the organization. After some discussion, it was decided to call the organization the 'Hospital Auxiliary.' A committee for drafting the constitution and by-laws was appointed as follows: Miss Sue Walker, Mrs. McDaniel, and Mrs. Fulbright.

"Mrs. Chase was elected President of the Auxiliary; Mrs. Botefuhr, Vice President; Mrs. Brough, Secretary; Mrs. Fulbright, Treasurer. A number of enthusiastic talks were made, and fifty-six members were enrolled. A motion was made and carried that a second meeting, for the purpose of adopting a constitution, be held Thursday evening at seven o'clock, just before the mass meeting. There being no further business for the afternoon, the meeting adjourned until Thursday evening."

Article I of the subsequently adopted constitution states: "The name of this Association shall be called the Hospital Auxiliary of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas."

Article II states: "The object and purpose of this Association shall be to aid, promote and assist the construction and equipment of a hospital in the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas and thereafter to devise and prosecute such methods as shall tend to permanently and successfully maintain the same."

At a meeting held at the "Ozark Club Room" on April 3rd, Mrs. Joe Harrison reported that she and three other ladies had made almost $60 selling flowers and that $52 had been deposited to the credit of the Hospital Auxiliary, and that more would be deposited as soon as collected.

At the May 7th meeting a motion was made and carried "to extend a vote of thanks to the Opera House management for their kindness and generosity in giving the proceeds of the Schubert Concert to the Auxiliary." At this meeting it was reported that an offer of "half the net proceeds of opening night" at another attraction had been made to the Auxiliary.

At a called meeting of the Executive Board on May 22, it was reported "the men had asked that the ladies aid in getting subscriptions for the Hospital in the first and second wards. Judge McDaniel was present at the meeting and explained the situation."

At the June 4 meeting, "It was decided to have an Auxiliary Exchange each Saturday... Those present agreed to furnish cakes, pies, lightbread, etc., for Monday, from three to five, for the benefit of housekeepers during commencement."

(Concluding installment of this history in next issue of FLASHBACK)

THE LIMESTONE SPRING AND THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE

by F. M. McConnell

When the old Sulphur City school was north of the Laymon and Head store, at the turn of the Mintun Road (now Highway 74), the Limestone spring was used by the school for drinking water, there being no other supply. Many considered the water from the spring the best. On the present Sulphur City-Mount Salem road, at the end of the Tucker lane, there was a road which went north to the Rev. John F. McCuistion place and then on past the spring to the school. That road is now closed beyond the McCuistion place, and the spring is used to supply a pond on the poultry farm of Austin Reed, who has the old Harvey F. (Dock) Head place.

The old school house was last used for school purposes in 1903. It was used thereafter as a residence for a short time, but it is now gone. The new 2-story building, now used for storage and fast going away, was first used in 1904, which is the year that Roy A. Scott moved from Black Oak to Sulphur City.

At the spring only one dipper was used and it was kept in the bucket and all used it. School began about the middle of July and lasted three months. There were few doctors, and there were no hospitals, but no such thing as an "epidemic" was known. Girls did not wear short skirts, nor boys long hair and sideburns. Most men wore long black whiskers, as the present day no-good safety razors were unknown.

In playing ball, trees and rocks were used for bases. "Cross out" and "town ball" were played. Girls played with the boys, and there was just not enough time during noon or recess to get a bucket of water. When "books" took up there was no trouble about finding someone to go after water, as plenty of girls and boys wanted to go. The teacher usually selected two boys or two girls (generally two girls) to go after water.

In the school the subjects taught included Ray's Higher Arithmetic, the Blueback Speller, Geography, "Grammer," etc. and when a boy or girl had "completed" these it was thought that there was no more to it.

Included among the early teachers were John Whittmore, J. L. McConnell and Samuel C. Rutherford. The old school house, used then, and the houses they used are now gone. One of the best teachers was Prof. E. L. Morris, who occupied a house on the Mount Salem-George Lewis Mill road, and walked about three miles to teach school. He was also a good "Rolly Hole" player, and he loved to play. One of his students was Milton Hill, who had been with Theodore Roosevelt and his Rough Riders at San Juan during the Spanish-American war. Hill always went without hat and this caused Morris to ask why. Hill replied "An empty barn does not need a roof." Maybe that is why so many folks go without hats today. Pearl Crawford also taught and for many years she taught at the Northeast State College at Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Spring near old Sulphur City School. Standing is Della Burchett. Seated are Clementine Burchett (center) and Ethel Burchett (right). Photo made in 1909.

In the accompanying picture the children of Clark L. Burchett and George Burchett are at the Limestone spring, Clemantine, daughter of Clark L. Burchett, being in the middle and her cousins, Della (standing) and Ethel being on either side.

Among the early students were Myrtle Laymon, Bertha McCuistion, Frances, May and West Tucker, Jake and Emmett Williams, Elisha Sutton, John, Jim, Dayton, Ode, Tal, Vol, Pearl, Eldean, Maude and Inez Crawford.

- w c h s -

I write you concerning a family I am researching, in case you happen to have a file on it.

The family is: Benjamin F. VAUGHAN, b. 1815 Tenn., moved to Ark. with his parents when he was quite young--sometime in 1820's. They lived in Crawford & Washington Cos. before settling in Madison Co. He m. Cherubia Harp, b. 1816, Tenn. He d. 1903, she d. 1892. Am trying to find out who their parents were, exactly where they were born in Tenn. Believe Benjamin was the son of either Daniel or Samuel Vaughan, but don't know. Have read somewhere that Fayetteville, Ark. was named for their hometown of Fayetteville, Tenn., but can't remember where I read it. Goodspeed's indicates they were some of the first settlers in Washington County--also says they were from Warren Co., Tenn. which is not the same county where Fayetteville, Tenn. is located.

Mrs. Barbara Herron
2100 E. 51st, Box 20, Tulsa, Okla. 74105

JUDGE JONAS M. TEBBETTS

(The excellent Marian Tebbetts Banes manuscript, giving the history of the Tebbetts family and of their Fayetteville home, continues to provide us with some really significant historical material. We continue with the Banes story. And by the way, continuing improvement is being made in the re-furnishing of the house. If you can, visit it soon and tell your friends about it, too.)

The "new place" seemingly without trouble gradually fell into beautiful and graceful lines, or, if there was trouble it was not apparent. Everything was so calm, so peaceful. It is a pity that everybody has not as peaceful and abundant a childhood to look back upon as was found there.

Mysteriously a hedge of red haw sprang into place to shut off the back premises, and a wide bordered walk ran from the front door to the gate. About fifteen feet from the portico, curved side walks led from the main walk to openings in the hedge each side of the house. These walks were covered with tan bark that gave out an acrid, pungent odor when it rained. Each side of the walks was finished with flower beds. Hale and I could have shown one where the tiger lilies grew, and the white lilies, and the phlox and heather bells and the smoky hyacinths and canterbury bells and verbenas and clove pinks and the columbine, both native and blue, and the lupines. Those were for Father, as the flower of his childhood. I could show you where, halfway between the house and the gate, the frames for the coral honeysuckle and the black honeysuckle were. Roses seemed to be everywhere. The great "Giant of Bottles" grew up near Mother's window, but several plants of the Hermosa were near the honeysuckles.

Mother was surprised when she found that the seed from the Hermosa bushes had fallen to the ground and had germinated, and when the little plants had been nurtured into bloom, that they "came true." That "came true" needed explanation. Ever after it was associated in my mind, not only with flowers, but with persons, especially with children who have accomplished what has been hoped for an expected of them because of their breeding and association.

Down by the gate and out in the grass, was a dandylion plant--one dandylion plant. There will be a story about that later on.

Back of the house was a brick smoke house (in the chest is found a bill for the making of the brick) and a rather large frame building that was called the workshop, because maybe, the main room contained a carpenter's work bench and all kinds of tools. Smaller rooms were used for servants' sleeping quarters, and two upstairs rooms were used for storage and things in general. Between these two houses was a long shed room in which was a built-in fireplace or oven of brick, which held two large iron kettles. There the washing was done, barrels of soft soap made and, during "hog-killing time," great crocks of lard rendered. That was a convenience born of Father's New England training. Such things in that part of the country were generally accomplished in the open--

a kettle being set on three stones with a fire built beneath. This oven was smilingly called "one of Tebbetts' Yankee contraptions," but Mother was very proud of it. The people, even his friends, mostly from Virginia, Georgia, South Carolina, could hardly forgive Father's New England birth.

The house faced south. To the east of the house and well back were the stables with a lane running from the street to them. In front of the stable and east of the hawthorn hedge were fruit trees and on the other, toward town, was an open space of grass and back of that was the grove.

The grove! Ah! The grove! It belonged to us children, all except where the sheds for the bee hives were strung along the garden fence.

The four acres were part of the old McGarrah estate and the McGarrah cornfields were back of the grove. The children were mortally afraid of that. A "runaway nigger" might be hiding there. The four acres were without trees save the grove and one big oak that stood at the east corner of the portico. What a noise the katydids made there on a summer night, and how Father used to go down the steps and hammer on the tree to stop their racket. Why this one tree and the grove were left is a question, but the fact remains that, excepting young trees planted by Father, they were all that were on the four acre lot.

Roughly speaking, the grove must have been about 3/4 of an acre square. Violets grew there and sometimes in the spring were found lovely, lovely white adders-tongues along the back fence, and occasionally a yellow violet. That necessitate a run to the house to show Mother.

There was the children's play house, their play things. Hale's great rope swing in which, standing, he could "work up" until he was horizontal with the tree. There was, also, a smaller swing for Eddie and me, but it made me sick to swing. I could climb, though. One who has not experienced it cannot realize the delight of swaying in the top branches of a great tree. It is like being rocked in a cradle with the air so sweet and different up there. Yes, I could climb. Father told someone, laughingly, years later, that he thought I had climbed every tree in northwest Arkansas.

Delightful memories of childhood are connected with the grove. Eddie filled his checked aprong pockets with stemless violets for Mother. It is filled with delightful and sacred memories.

The grove was in the northwest corner of the lot, fenced in from the garden and another small orchard. And that is where Eddie and Harry were buried. There was no cemetery. When black Aunt Amy died, she was taken to Mt. Comfort for burial, but the two little boys were laid to rest in a beautiful lot back of the garden. It, the garden, was laid off in geometric lines--the beds planked in, and flowers planted along the fence. Hale's and my flower garden was there, and we often played there.

Sometime during these years I had my first schooling. Mr. George Baker, the very competent carpenter who built the new house and Mr. Graham's house, developed a felon on one of the fingers of his right hand. He was laid off from work for a long time, and finally the finger had to be amputated. Mrs. Baker, feeling the necessity of doing something to help in the financial needs of the family, opened a school for little children. A dozen or more of the town families sent their little ones there, and that is where I learned my ABC's. It is questionable if I learned anything else. It was long before the kindergarten age, but we children did have a fine playing time.

There was but one drawback--that amputated finger. We learned that it had been buried under a tree in the prettiest part of the yard, but nothing under the sun would have taken us to that spot. We were almost afraid to look in that direction and spoke of it in whispers.

Hale and I often played around Harry's and Eddie's graves. We took our playmates and playthings there, and planted flowers without a thought of superstitious fear, but that amputated finger--ghosts and pestilential things dwelt in its neighborhood.

Hale learned to read at home and a cousin took him through "Coleman's Mental Arithmetic" in a few weeks' time, and when he started to school at the college it was but a short time until he was in the regular collegiate classes.

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WORD FROM CLARA E. KENDRICK

We are pleased to have a letter from our loyal member, and former FLASHBACK writer, Mrs. Clara E. Kendrick. She is living in a nursing home at 526 South Joe Street, Nowata, Oklahoma and the zip number is 74048.

Mrs. Kendrick read Tom Rothrock's first installment of the history of the Fayetteville City Hospital and found the mention of Dr. W. B. Welch of special interest. "In 1889," she recalled, "he rode a horse 25 miles south of Fayetteville to see me. I was crippled, could not walk, left leg drawn from a strained ligament."

Mrs. Kendrick was Clara E. Simpson and lived on the family place three miles southeast of Cane Hill. She writes that she is now 86 years of age. We send her greetings and best wishes and hope she will write again to FLASHBACK.

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OLD CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

by Lloyd McConnell

April Term, 1859

The Honorable John M. Wilson was seated as Circuit Judge. Serving under him as members of the grand jury were Jones Pierson, Jona T. Elma, Sr., Morton S. Gregg, James B. Daugherty, Tauras Rieff, John B. Morrow, Martin D. Frazier, James Winn, Isaac Barnett, James McCullock, P. W. Rudd, John Latta, William C. Woodruff, James M. Tuttle, Alexander Hewitt, Isaac Spencer and James B. Crozier.

In court on charges of fighting and disturbing public worship were citizens James Carney, James Hutchens, David Williams, Joseph Davidson and others. Isaac Hulse and Moses Whitaker, along with John Prine, Anias Cavin and Henry Winkler were charged with fisticuffs.

David Brooks filed an action against Peter Couch, Henry Couch, William F. Woodward, Joseph Love, Thomas Fowler, Alexander M. Dunn, Enocks Robins and George W. Drain, but failed to appear for trial.

Stand Watie filed a suit against E. M. Evins for a debt. William Wilson, Alexander Marrs, Obediah F. Ballard and Augustus C. Pool were involved in civil matters.

The firm of B. J. and W. S. Deaver was involved in a lawsuit filed by Stirman & Dickson, as was Alfred W. Arrington.

Serving on the spring petit jury were Ransom F. Clary, H. L. Malcy, Daniel Bryan, Thomas Weldon, O. M. Rieff, Jefferson Kelly, James Montgomery, John L. Matthews, William T. Neal, Johnson Roberts and Henry Winkler.

Warren House Jr. was under an indictment for perjury. The trial was transferred to Crawford County. Robert Smith paid in a twenty dollar bill for selling liquor to a slave.

James W. Curtis did not answer when his name was called by the bailiff and the court forfeited his bond of two hundred dollars. This happened often in misdemeanor cases and at the next term of court the forfeiture was set aside. The hue and cry had by that time abated somewhat.

It is the purpose of this record to search and bring to the front little recollections about the old-timers of the county in those days.

It is noted, therefore, that a James W. Curtis in 1864 was called to the door of his home at night. A volley of shots rang out. Mrs. Curtis, in bed with a four-day old child, got out of bed, dragged the body of her husband back inside the house, then made her way to a neighbor for help to bury him.

Anthony A. Reed was charged with manslaughter and his jury included William Harris, Charles Harris, George W. Pendergrass, Henry Winkler, Michael Sprinkle, Willey R. Burrow, James R. Oxford, Benjamin Hood, Wiley Roberts, John Ritter, John R. Glazenbrook, and James H. Hill. The jurors were called tailsmen.

Thomas Ridley, Pleasant Chapham, and Warren House were placed under a peace bond. This was a procedure when threats were made against the person or property of someone.

Ellis Blythe was sentenced to a 10-year term for theft. Some witnesses who did not appear for the trial of James F. Marrs were brought to the court under an attachment.

The jury found Anthony A. Reed innocent of the manslaughter charge.

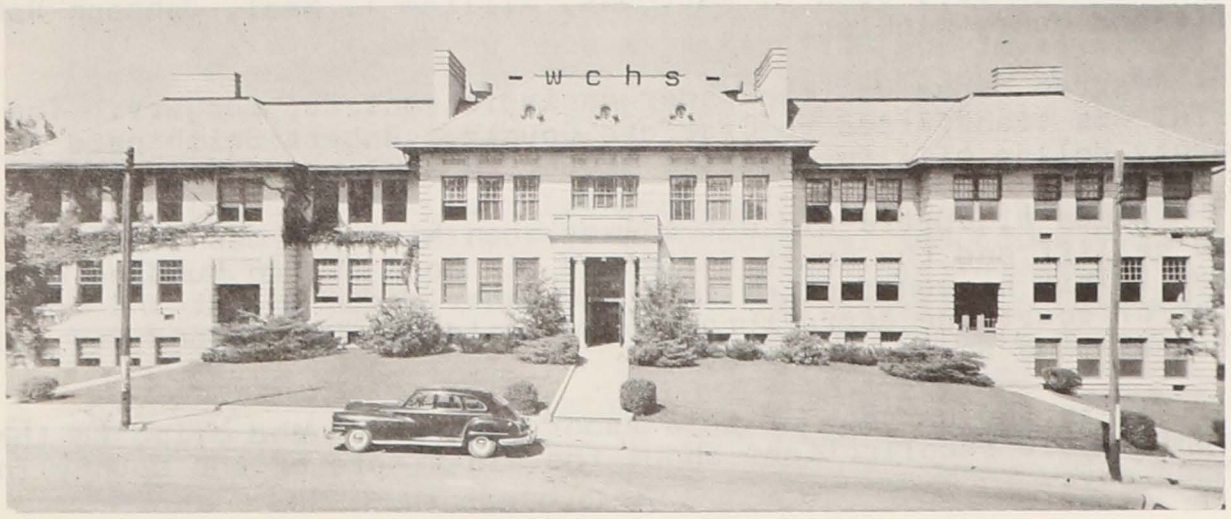
A civil case involving one Ballard against Alberty resulted in a verdict of one cent plus costs, which had been arrived at by arbitration approved by the court.

John Oschner was not guilty of an assault with intent to kill. The jury included Sherrod Robinson, David McKinney, Joseph McCamey, William P. Job, Charles Cosby, Joseph Kennon, Washington L. Wilson, Henry Fulbright, Stephen Bedford, James Trott, William A. Watson and Stephen K. Stone.

Failure to appear in court or before the grand jury caused some people to post two hundred dollar bonds.

G. W. Hughes was a Justice of the Peace for Illinois Township. It was against the law to sell "spirits."

Walter T. Thornberry and R. D. Cantrell attended the term of court.



Old Fayetteville High School Building
(Photo courtesy George Gearhart)

FIRE DESTROYS FIRST HIGH SCHOOL

A spectacular fire at one or two in the morning destroyed the "old" Fayetteville High School on Friday the 13th of June, 1969.

The school was not the oldest in town (that honor belongs to Washington School), but it was built by the same man, Albert M. Byrnes, who built the original Washington, Jefferson and Leverett schools, in that order. However, the building that burned may be termed the oldest school in town, since Washington and Jefferson schools were rebuilt to plans dated May 23, 1930, both schools to the same blueprints.

The ground the destroyed building stood on bears historical significance, for in 1836, the year Arkansas became a state, Lodowic Brodie and A. B. Anthony built there the first brick house in Fayetteville for school purposes. Lodowic Brodie was the father of Mrs. Stephen K. Stone and grandfather of Lodie Stone, well-known citizens of Fayetteville. The brick house was later occupied by the father of R. K. Hodge, a Fayetteville restaurateur. There was another identical house down the street where the City Hospital is now located.

At the beginning of Fayetteville's existence in 1828, education was a piecemeal thing. Teaching continued in private residences, churches, store rooms, Masonic Hall, as could be rented, until 1885 when Byrnes built Washington school.

Morgan H. Looney taught high school after the war (sometime after 1865) in a house on the corner of Dickson and St. Charles streets. Mose Campbell built this first frame house in Fayetteville and David Walker lived in it while his brick was being built on Center Street. Later the Central Presbyterian Church stood on the site and was razed to make way for our present post office.

Strangely enough, Fayetteville had a university long before it obtained a public high school, the Arkansas Industrial University having been formally opened on January 22, 1872. A formal high school course was not organized until 1907 with an enrollment of 27. Students aspiring to attend the University meanwhile were prepared for the University curriculum at a "prep" school. Enrollment at the university the first year was 101, only ten of them being collegiate. But five years later there were 115 collegiate and 172 preparatory students at A. I. U. This resulted in a very young population on the campus. S. J. Campbell, son of a postmaster and county judge in Fayetteville, entered the preparatory school at the University when he was only 15. Six years later, in 1910, he graduated and had his name engraved on the senior walk. This was the educational pattern in the days before Fayetteville High School was built.

Why was there no high school in the city's public school system in 1872? As W. S. Campbell says in his classic One Hundred Years of Fayetteville, "War had impoverished the state, and schools had been wrecked for ten years."

But with the advent of a formal high school course in 1907, the town looked to a building to house its school. Albert M. Byrnes, builder of the several grade schools, was the successful bidder for the high school contract in 1908. Byrnes and McCauley were the builders, and Herbert Hewitt the architect. School board personnel at that time were: J. H. McIlroy president, R. J. Wilson secretary, and A. H. Purdue, Jeff T. Hight, W. H. Rollins, E. F. Ellis, and J. E. Vaughan. The board bought the east half of the block facing School street between Meadow and Center for $4,500 from Hugh F. Reagan. Later they purchased the west half of the block for $3,500. The original high school building cost $35,000.

At the time W. S. Campbell wrote his One Hundred Years book, he was able to tote up the total outlay for the school at $75,000 because in 1925 the E. V. Bird Construction Company built an annex to the north end and in 1927 put a similar annex at the south end. The building was still viewed with a great deal of civic pride. In addition to the actual building costs, $10,000 worth of "equipment" was mentioned.

F. S. Root, who had by far the longest tenure as superintendent of schools in Fayetteville, was superintendent when the high school was built. Later, when a frame building was moved to the lower northern part of the block, faced with native stone and put into service as an auditorium-gymnasium for the high school, it was called Root Gymnasium in his honor. It was not harmed by the disastrous fire on Friday the thirteenth, June, 1969.

With the addition of the two wings, the interior of the high school became complicated. In later years, monitors were posted on the landings at either end of the building with instructions to ask any student abroad between classes for his "pass slip." And it was not unusual for freshmen to get lost looking for their next class in the building's maze of levels and corridors. Population continued to grow, even though the building did not, and all available space, even the dark basement room, was pressed into service.

The study hall at the top of the building was always light and airy, with the library conveniently located on the east side of it.

The front hall was lined with composite pictures of senior classes. They marched up and down from the small vestibule inside the middle entrance with its staircases leading down to the basement and up to the main lobby. Along these walls were arrayed generations of graduating seniors.

In 1911 the first fourteen people graduated and a composite picture displays them in a circle around a picture of the school: Margaret Sutton, Noah Adams, Rowena Moore, Marion Price, Bess Hendricks, Ailene McCoy, Willie Fuller, Bess Phillips, Mary Clark, Floy Hurst, Anna Hughes, Jewel Hughes, Harry Roberts, and Helene Hinds.

The faces of the Thirties looked very mature compared to those of the Fifties--mayhap a change of photographic technique--and it was a sport to try to find big sisters and brothers or relatives among the groups. It gave the school a homey atmosphere.

Perhaps it explains the nostalgia apparent in a feature story in the Northwest Arkansas Times, published on Monday the 16th of June after the school burned. One ex-student parked across the street and had a good cry. Others remembered pleasant hours of writing for the school paper, or the good basketball teams that played in Root Gymnasium. One ex-teacher remembered the drafty study hall.

W. C. Smith, formerly the city engineer of Fayetteville, attended the school during World War I, from 1914 to 1918, and his daughter Ada Lee attended it during World War II from 1941 to 1945. He remembers that even in 1914 they were getting crowded--it was before the wings were added--and they squeezed a third desk into the double rows of desks in study hall on the third floor. He recalls that a stern disciplinarian, one E. A. Byers, was his principal. There were about 350 pupils.

The mind-sticking Mr. Byers was preceded by Guy Hudgins and succeeded by E. W. Ragsdale, J. C. Massie, R. C. Bowden, M. W. Sandford, H. S. Dunn, O. C. Trimble, W. M. Heffelfinger, R. A. Cooper, Brad Walker, Virgil Blossom, Dotson Lewis, and Louise Bell who served as principal of Fayetteville High School from 1942 until 1953. Mrs. Bell has a mind like an efficient IBM machine and can tick off her predecessors back to Heffelfinger without any mistakes.

Guy Hudgins, the first principal of Fayetteville High School, has a sister, Helen, (Mrs. C. B. Wiggans) now living on Sunset Drive in Fayetteville.

When Fayetteville High School moved into a new building on Stone street in 1954, the brick building on School street became the Hillcrest Junior High and continued this new educational role until the spring of 1966 when it was closed as a public school.

To squeeze the last bit of educational function out of it, a federal education program, NASEC (or Northwest Arkansas Supplementary Education Center) took over the building from 1966 until February 1969. They studied innovations in the teaching process and ran a developmental Junior High until the spring of 1968. NASEC, covering a seven-county area in Northwest Arkansas, moved to the old Southwest Electric Power Company building on Center street, and the old high school building served its last educational mission.

The school fire, "set by someone who poured flammable liquids on each floor of the three story structure, then touched off a blaze in the basement," coincided with thefts at three jewelry stores the same night, but whether it was all planned by the same individual or the thefts were gratuitous is undetermined.

The building had been condemned and emptied of furnishings, and was slated for demolition later in the summer. Fire Chief Burl Skelton said he allowed the fire to burn itself out but did contain it. For several days the buff brick walls stood around the gutted and blackened interior in mute testimony to builder Byrnes' lasting art. One former administrator has pointed out that the wooden floors were saturated with cleaning oils, and would always have been a hazard. Nevertheless, many townspeople drove by the roped-off site and seemed sad at the building's passing. A very young boy appeared at a nearby restaurant in tears, being comforted by his grandparents who had taken him by to see the burnt remains. He had heard his parents tell stories about the old school and was inconsolable.

At last the federal regulations requiring bids for the demolition were met, and the yellow brick walls were pulled down on June 19. Now Warren Segraves and E. E. Jacks, architects for the federal housing project, contemplate a thirteen or fourteen story brick apartment building to be erected on the site facing Meadow street. For the first time, there will be no educational edifice on School street, and future generations will wonder why the street has that name.

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WORD FROM JIM TRIMBLE

As United States Congressman for many years, James W. Trimble not only saw a lot of history made, but he helped make it, and the whole nation, including Northwest Arkansas, benefited. "Jim" now lives in retirement at 100 Maryland Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., zip 20002.

He wrote us from Washington on March 28, saying he could see the flags in front of the Supreme Court building at half mast for General Eisenhower, and he added: "When I first came to Washington and served on the Foreign Affairs Committee, it was my privilege to sit in on meetings with him as witness, and with General Omar Bradley and General Marshall and others who were active in the struggle overseas."

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GENEALOGICAL INQUIRIES

I am attempting to trace the family of my paternal great grandfather, Joseph HIGHT (son of Wm. Thomas Garrett Hight), who moved with his 12 children to Washington County, Arkansas, ca 1881. They are said to have settled near Fayetteville.

Joseph's sons:
(Dr.) John Hight
Jeff Hight
Lemuel Hight
William G. Hight
Robert Hight
Joseph B. Hight (1853-1893)

Joseph's daughters:
Mary Hight
Nancy (Hight) Nance
Etta (Hight) Gault
Jane (Hight) Hendricks
Fanny (Mrs. Smyers Knott)
Lily (Mrs. Hardy Pope)

Joseph Hight, and five children (Dr. John, Jeff, Lemuel, William G. and Nancy (Hight) Nance) remained in Arkansas. The others moved to Collin Co., Texas, ca 1884.

I need birth, death, marriage dates, descendants, and especially, the name of my great-grandmother, Joseph's wife. One uncle, age 91, says that she was Naomi PATTERSON; another uncle, age 85, and equally positive, says that Naomi was Joseph's mother and the wife of W. T. G. Hight.

The family lived in Bedford Co., Tenn., from the early 1870s until they moved to Arkansas. The 1880 census for Bedford Co. was damaged by water, and very little of it is legible. William G. Hight, age 35, and possibly Robert ? Hight (the first name is badly blurred), age 33, and their wives and children, were the only family members found. Except for my grandfather, Joseph B., the marital status and ages of other Hights, in 1880, not known.

Any help or suggestions will be greatly appreciated, not only by me, but by the above-mentioned uncles. They are becoming somewhat impatient with my lack of progress.

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